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Diana T Fritz 02/06/2007 05:36:24 PM From DB/Inbox: Search Results

Cable  
Text:

CONFIDENTIAL

SIPDIS  
TELEGRAM

June 19, 2004

To: No Action Addressee  
Action: Unknown  
From: AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI (ABU DHABI 2006 - UNKNOWN)  
TAGS: PREL, PTER  
Captions: None  
Subject: UAE CONDEMNS MURDER OF PAUL JOHNSON, PRAISES SAUDI  
SECURITY FORCES  
Ref: None

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C O N F I D E N T I A L ABU DHABI 02006

SIPDIS  
CXABU:  
ACTION: POL  
INFO: RSO AMB DCM P/M ECON

DISSEMINATION: POL  
CHARGE: PROG

APPROVED: CDA:RAALBRIGHT  
DRAFTED: POL:JFMAYBURY  
CLEARED: NONE

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OO RUEHC RUEHZM  
DE RUEHAD #2006 1711146  
ZNY CCCCC ZZH  
O 191146Z JUN 04  
FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4777  
INFO RUEHZM/GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL COLLECTIVE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ABU DHABI 002006

SIPDIS

FOR NEA/ARP AND S/CT

E.O. 12958: DECL: 06/18/2009  
TAGS: [PREL](#) [PTER](#) [SA](#) [TC](#)  
SUBJECT: UAE CONDEMNS MURDER OF PAUL JOHNSON, PRAISES  
SAUDI SECURITY FORCES

Ref: State 135081

Classified by Richard A. Albright, Charge d'Affaires,  
a.i., reasons 1. 5 (b) and (d).

¶1. (C) UAE President Shaykh Zayed and Abu Dhabi Crown Prince Shaykh Khalifa have sent messages of condolence to President Bush and to the family of Paul Johnson in the wake of Johnson's murder by terrorists. The UAE leadership also sent cables to the Saudi leadership praising the Saudi security forces for fighting the terrorist groups in the Kingdom. In both cases, the UAE was the first GCC state to speak out, Information Ministry senior advisor Ibrahim Al-Abed told Polchief on June 19. The UAE had also been the first to condemn last month's killing of Nicholas Berg in Iraq.

¶2. (C) By the time post received reftel instructions, the UAE's official news agency Web site was carrying a report that President Zayed had sent a cable of condolence to President Bush expressing deep sorrow at Johnson's death at the hands of "soul-less criminals." Shaykh Zayed's message also reiterated the UAE's firm stand against terrorism. The same report said that Abu Dhabi Crown Prince Shaykh Khalifa had sent cables of condolence to President Bush and to Johnson's family. Nonetheless, Polchief shared reftel points June 19 with MFA Director of European and American Affairs Ahmed Al-Muqarrab.

¶3. (C) In its statements condemning acts of terror, Al-Abed said that the UAEG has avoided using the word Islam. "These attacks have nothing to do with Islam. People should realize this is a criminal act. Full stop."

¶4. (U) The official news agency also reported June 19 that Shaykh Zayed and Shaykh Khalifa had sent cables to the Saudi leadership praising the Saudi security forces for their actions against terrorist groups. Shaykh Zayed's message said that the security forces' achievements have restored confidence in Saudi Arabia's ability "to uproot this criminal phenomenon, as well as put an end to it."

¶5. (C) Comment: The UAEG has not needed USG prompting to strongly and publicly condemn terrorist attacks on groups and individuals. As Al-Abed told Polchief, the UAE shaykhs want the world to know that they are taking a zero tolerance stand against terrorists.  
ALBRIGHT